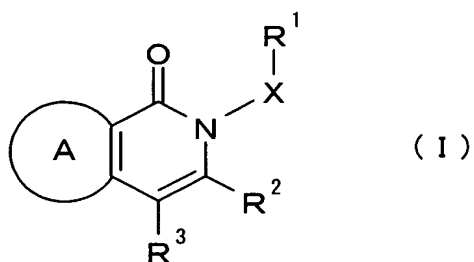


## ABSTRACT

A compound represented by the formula (I):



5 wherein ring A represents an aromatic ring; X represents a  
bond, oxygen,  $\text{NR}^4$  ( $\text{R}^4$  represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon  
group, or a heterocyclic group), or alkylene;  $\text{R}^1$  represents  
a hydrocarbon group, or a heterocyclic group;  $\text{R}^2$  represents  
-COY $\text{R}^5$  (Y represents a bond, alkylene, oxygen, sulfur, or  
10  $\text{NR}^6$  ( $\text{R}^6$  represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group, or a  
heterocyclic group), and  $\text{R}^5$  represents a hydrocarbon group,  
or a heterocyclic group), a hydrocarbon group, or a  
heterocyclic group; and  $\text{R}^3$  represents a hydrocarbon group,  
a heterocyclic group, optionally substituted hydroxy,  
15 optionally substituted amino, or  $-\text{S}(\text{O})_n\text{R}^7$  ( $\text{R}^7$  represents a  
hydrocarbon group, or a heterocyclic group, and n is 0 to  
2), a salt of the compound, or a prodrug or either is  
useful as an agent for modulating the function of an RFRP  
receptor.